

GRAND HAVEN, Dec. 13, 1855.

In the absence of other papers worthy of particular notice, in our midst, I propose to devote a few moments to a hasty sketch of the present condition of the Press of old Ottawa.

And this subject seems proper, at the present time, from the fact that our citizens are about to be favored with the perusal of a new paper to be issued during the coming week, by our much esteemed friend and fellow citizen, JOHN W. BARNES, Esq., associated with Mr. Foster, of which I shall make more particular mention in its appropriate place.

At present, four weeklies are published within the limits of our county, to wit: The Ottawa Register, Hollander, Grand River Times and Ottawa Clarion.

The Register is issued from the press of Messrs. DOWNS & SONS, at Holland, and is edited by HENRY D. POST, Esq., one of the readiest, most graceful and effective writers of Western Michigan. The *force* of the Register consists in the amount of interesting historical information that entertains the reader weekly, interspersed with other matter of the real genuine, solid character, in which the scientific predominates—Democratic in politics, though of that easy, so, character, that makes it easily conformable to the tastes of the more liberal portion of that party, and calculated to give but little offence to those of its readers entertaining opposite political views—perfectly independent in every respect, neither heeding nor caring for the particular views or opinions of any man, set of men, clique or party; and, seemingly ambitious only to advocate and support the right, at all times and under all circumstances.

The Hollander is published at Holland, by Messrs. DOWNS & SONS; and, as the name indicates, is the organ of the Colonists. Our much esteemed, adopted citizen, HERMANUS DOWNS, Esq., the senior partner concerned in its publication, is a perfect sample of a man of general and highly entertaining information. It is Democratic in politics, and has probably the largest circulation of any other paper in the county.

The Times is published at Eastmanville, a village of perhaps two hundred permanent inhabitants, situated on Grand River, some eighteen miles from this place; and though it aspires to become, at no distant day, the county seat of our county so rapidly increasing in wealth and population, yet, at present, and prospectively in the view of many of the knowing and prophetic ones, it is rather a "one horse" village, and the Times is said to be decidedly a "Home Institution." In present proportions, the Messrs. KIRK, are indeed worthy young men, and much esteemed in community; and it is much to be regretted, that the peculiar location of the Times and other attendant circumstances, unnecessary to be mentioned in this connection, have rendered the investment an unprofitable one for them, resulting in a loss, as we are credibly informed, of about four hundred dollars in a few months. And so far distant from the commercial center, the advertising patronage of the Times must, necessarily, be extremely limited, and the little job work executed at the office, and meagre subscription patronage, render its publication far from remunerative, though its character, as respects its well written editorials, the variety and interest of its selected matter and mechanical execution, has much improved under the present proprietors, and the paper is indeed worthy of a more extended patronage. In politics, it is Democratic.

The Clarion, published at this place by H. S. CLARK & Co., is the only paper advocating Republican principles in the County, and has enjoyed an immense advertising patronage from State and County, though its subscription list is not so large as might be anticipated from the fact that our county is largely Republican, and no other organ of the party to offer successful competition.

The Clarion has suffered a loss of the advertising patronage of our citizens, merchants and others, to a considerable extent, from the fact that the rates charged have been fixed at a price so far exceeding those heretofore paid to other papers for the same amount of space occupied, that they have really felt, as much as they desire to sustain a home paper, that their business relations, and the "tightness" of the money markets, would not consistently allow them to advertise as extensively as formerly, or as they would feel themselves bound even now to do, under more favorable circumstances. And then, it is well known to the editorial fraternity and others, that remarks about "home matters" and things will often crop up, perhaps unwittingly—into even well written editorials, calculated to offend those jealous of their honor and reputation. And, again, editors are fallible and oftentimes suspected of being less affable and obliging than their position relative to the public would seem to warrant. This often occasions a root of bitterness to spring up between parties, interested, and a consequent loss of patronage. But on the whole, we think the Clarion is doing a remunerative business.

A few thoughts relative to the Grand Haven News, the new paper above referred to, as being about to be published by Messrs. BARNES & FOSTER, will close our remarks upon the Press of this County.

Something over a year and a half ago, Mr. BARNES sold the Times office to GALEX EASTMAN, Esq., with an expectation that it would be permanently located at Eastmanville, and gave up for the time being the business of printing; but, for causes that demand no further notice here, he has since been repeatedly solicited by prominent business men and others of this place, whom regard to political preferences, to resume his profession as a practical printer—not unteaching his patronage and influence in his favor. So, finally, in connection with Mr. FOSTER, late of the Daily Eagle office, Grand Rapids, he has consented to accept of the proffered assistance, and, on Wednesday next, expects to issue the first copy of the News, with the usual compliment to the fraternity.

The paper will be independent in every respect, and your knowledge of the reputation of Mr. BARNES, (and his partner sustains a similar character), as an honorable, straight-forward, business man, as possessing great affability of manner, and a peculiar facility of pleasing his patrons, by the neatness and dispatch with which he is wont to perform all the duties of the press, will enable you to judge of the success that will, with certainty attend him in the prosecution of his newly undertaken enterprise.

OTTEWA.

## The Grand Haven News.

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 27, 1855.

### TO THE PUBLIC.

In this, the first number of our paper, it will be expected that there should be an exposition of the principles upon which it will be conducted. The press of our country is the grand agent in the formation and direction of public opinion.—When used for corrupt and venal purposes it is a powerful engine of evil.—When directed by honesty and intelligence it is the conservator of reform and progress. It should occupy no neutral position, but speak candidly, boldly, and with frankness, upon all measures where the public good is concerned. It should seek that popularity which follows, not that which is followed after.—Its morality should be pure. Its independence undoubted. Its principles should be such as would commend themselves to the judgment and consciences of men.

These are briefly our views of the power of the press and the manner in which it should be conducted. And we have established this paper, not merely because of the business it may afford, but with a sincere and earnest desire to promote what we conceive to be sound and just views of our moral and political relations. This, then, is to be a moral and political press. The morality we shall inculcate, will, at least, not differ, and we humbly trust it shall be found in accordance with the charity, purity, and love, taught in the example and precepts of Him who could not err. Its politics will be democratic. It will advocate the principles of that party of which JEFFERSON was the founder, of which JAMES BUCHANAN is, to-day, the representative, and STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS the able exponent. We refer them to the history of our country, almost every page of which is an evidence of their justice and sound policy. This government, since the days of TILOS, JEFFERSON, has been almost exclusively under the control of the democratic party. To that grand, national, and conservative party are we indebted for its past progress, its present stability, and grandeur, together with all its glorious promises for the future. That party, we believe, to-day, to be the one to which true and enlightened patriotism must look for the protection of our constitution and the perpetuity of this confederacy. Its principles, if fairly carried out, will quiet the storms of sectionalism and fanaticism, now sweeping across our country, and bring it back to safety and repose. We ask you to look, without prejudice, at those principles and we feel you must commend them!

1st. Non-intervention by the general government in the affairs of the Territories, leaving the people thereof perfectly free to regulate their own domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States.

2d. A reverence for the constitution, and obedience to the laws of the land; a strict construction of the first, and observance of the last, as authoritatively expounded by our judicial tribunal.

3d. That the highest law, so far as the political conduct of a citizen of this country is concerned, is the constitution of the United States, the constitutions of the respective States, and laws rightfully enacted under them, and our entire and scornful repudiation of the doctrine that a man's private opinion can justly protect him in defying the laws of his country.

4th. The rights of all the States, and the rights of each State, to be justly and impartially guarded by the general government, and all constitutional guarantees to be executed in the spirit and the letter.

5th. A belief that this government was organized by white men, for the benefit of white men, and that white men, under the law, and of right, shall judge of the privileges to be granted to the inferior Negro now in this country; and that under no circumstances should they be placed upon an equality, either socially or politically, with the white race, but occupy that subordinate station assigned them by nature.

6th. That whenever the safety of this government demands the acquisition of territory, if we can not acquire it by purchase, we have an undoubted right to take it by force, and retain it as long as our safety is jeopardized; and that we, as the dominant people upon the American continent, can not allow foreign governments to interfere in matters entirely American. That we are pledged to, and will maintain, as a party, the doctrine known as the Monroe doctrine.

We have above given as concise a view as possible of what we think are democratic doctrines, upon questions attracting the greatest attention from the American people. There are various other questions of policy which we have not room in this article to allude to, and we have confined ourselves, principally, to the points urged by our opponents.

Upon these points, one and all, we are pledged to do battle. We do not feel disposed to yield a hair to the spirit of fanaticism, now so rife among us, and as long as we conduct this paper we shall maintain the above doctrines. They are all more or less intimately connected with the subject of slavery; and while we think there are many questions of more practical import, to the citizens of this government, than that one, yet we are forced by the republican party to discuss that alone. We accept the issue and have no fear of the result.

The democratic party has never yet suffered but a temporary defeat, while all political organizations opposing it, have, one after another, been swept from existence, leaving scarcely a memory behind. It is but a few years since it met and vanquished the old whig party, headed as it was, by as noble and gallant leaders as ever commanded an opposing force. And can it be possible that the fiction, now styling themselves the republican party, and whose name is a burlesque upon the principles they advocate, can usurp the place of the whig party and succeed.—That party really possessed talents, patriotism, and respectability. It was a national party, whose principles found favor alike in all sections of our Union.—Contrast the leaders of them to-day with the old whig party. Does modern republicanism find favor alike in the North and the South? or is it arraying one half of the Union against the other, and striving between the two sections to "raise the devil that it can not lay?" It is the duty of the democratic party to "lay" that devil, and they intend to, and will lay him so cold that he never will get warm again, until the fires of his native region heats him up. "So mote it be."

O A WORD TO OUR FUTURE PATRONS.—Upon due consideration we have deemed it best, instead of issuing a prospectus of our paper to strike off a sample copy—though by no means a perfect one of what we intend to present in future to our readers, owing to the meager preparations for publication yet made. This we intend to circulate generally among our acquaintances, and others through our own and adjoining counties, and then wait two weeks from the issuing of such copy, for those who wish to become our patrons to hand in their subscription money and lists of advertisements. In the interim no paper will be issued, unless legal notices should require the publication of an extra.

"PLEASE EXCHANGE."—This is claimed to be what the Printer said to his lady love when he offered her his heart. Be that as it may, we desire on this occasion merely to present our respects and well-wishes to those of the fraternity who may receive a copy of the News, and politely request them to favor us with a copy of their respective publications in return.

A public meeting of four thousand persons has been held at Quebec, to denounce the government.

Col. Fremont's Mariposa mine yields from \$1,500 to \$3,000 every week. The quartz mine is worked by steam.

The public debt of the consolidated city of Philadelphia amounts to \$20,000,000.

### For the Grand Haven News. OUR VILLAGE.

Grand Haven has been at length connected with the great world. The D. & M. R. R. has put an end to our solitude. For twenty long, tedious, dreary winters we have been shut up in solitary confinement, for no fault of ours that we wot of, for, if you take our word for it, we are—ahem!—we were about saying, dear reader, that we are a most virtuous, sober, religious people as you can find on this continent; but as that would be a *boomer*, we must hesitate, and, as the lawyers say, enter a *demurrer*. At all events, here we were, winter after winter, like the bears in their hibernation, as the story goes, sucking our paws. No very great enjoyment, you will say. Well, it is nothing to boast of, we admit, especially, as we do not claim to belong to the ursine family, however approaching them in contiguity we may have lived. But now, thanks to steam and the iron horse, we believe we are on the high road to advancement; and we see no reason why we should not become the Milwaukee of Michigan. Let any man look at our facilities for commerce with Chicago, Milwaukee and the great West, and then our newly formed communication with the great marts of the East, by which we are brought within two days journey of New York, and two and a half of Boston.—Let him look at our river commerce, our lumbering establishments, and our fisheries, and then say, have we not the elements of wealth and greatness in our hand?

Now that these elements be rightly employed to accomplish the object in view, there are two things especially necessary. One is, to elevate the moral character of our citizenship. Our population is increasing. Last summer it was twelve hundred, since which it has largely increased, and it doubtless will increase. Now with this increasing population there will doubtless be, nay, there is now, a large importation of vice. Drunkenness and profanity are awfully prevalent.—There are places in this village, and on the other side of the river, where pollution and vice in their deadliest forms prevail. Contrast the leaders of them to-day with the old whig party. Does modern republicanism find favor alike in the North and the South? or is it arraying one half of the Union against the other, and striving between the two sections to "raise the devil that it can not lay?" It is the duty of the democratic party to "lay" that devil, and they intend to, and will lay him so cold that he never will get warm again, until the fires of his native region heats him up. "So mote it be."

Again, if our village is to grow, if we are to become a city, and we are strong in that belief, then our increasing population must find homes. There is not now half house room for the demand. Men will get almost any rent for their houses. It is plain that if the chief holders of property refuse to sell, as we have been informed that they do, except at a price unequalled in any similar place in this State, then they are injuring themselves, and are the greatest foes to the prosperity of the place; and it will be found that they will be the means of building up a rival village on the other side of the river. We hope they will not pursue this suicidal course, and that better counsels will prevail.

Let us, then, all unite our energies for the good of our growing village, and earnestly labor for its prosperity.

A CITIZEN.

The Belgian journals record the marriage of four brothers to four sisters, celebrated at the same time, at Mons.

### For the Grand Haven News. WINTER EVENINGS, OR A JOURNEY AMONG THE STARS.

I have always loved winter evenings, since my first recollections. When I was a little boy, and sat on a stool at mother's feet, and listened to stories about Moses, David and Goliath, Daniel or Jonah, or saw horses, soldiers or houses on the bright coals in the fire-place—no season was as pleasant to me as the long, cheery winter evenings. As I grew up and exchanged visions upon the seas for history, and nursery tales, for books of travels, winter evenings still maintained their place in my affections. I loved them more than spring, with its flowers and birds, more than summer, with its fragrant meads and waving fields of butter-cups, and meadow lilies, more than autumn, with its orchards of fruit, and fields of yellow grain. And now, since the skating and coasting parties of boyhood, and the many amusements of school days are all past, winter evenings have a charm for me that nothing else in nature possesses.—I love the long winter evening "from six to ten," in which I can converse with the great, the good, and the illustrious of the past. But books and the past are not all there are of interest. A live, active world, and a universe, of which this world is less than a grain of sand, compared with its whole mass, invite me to their contemplation. Closely wrapped in overcoat and shawl I started out, an evening not long since, and, in imagination, took a stroll among the stars.

Passing at once beyond the outer planets, I halted at Neptune, the most distant planet yet discovered in our solar system, distant from our earth two thousand seven hundred and fifty-five millions of miles. I halted here for a moment to look beyond and compute the distance to the nearest fixed star—for I had determined to spend that evening in a ramble among those twinkling worlds. I found that I had but just started on my journey, for between me and Sirius there was yet more than twenty billions of miles, more than seven thousand three hundred and sixteen times further than I had already come. With this distance before me, no time was to be lost, so away I went for Sirius. Having arrived at that "brightest star of the heavens," I looked back to the place from whence I had started, and behold! our little world appears not as I left it, but as it was three years and one hundred and four days before. This, at first, appeared strange to me, but I soon remembered that light passes through space at the rate of only one hundred and ninety-three thousand miles per second, hence the ray of light by which I saw our earth had been nearly three and a third years on its journey. The scene before me was interesting and amusing. All of my friends, and myself even, were plainly visible; just as we were one thousand one hundred and ninety-nine days before. I had, really, gone back three years and was living then over again. But I could not remain long in a place, for I was anxious to see, and to learn, so I hastened on, passing star after star, until I reached one of the sixth magnitude, in the head of Hercules. From this point I again viewed our little earth. There it lay, "like a mote in the sun," more than nine hundred millions of miles away, and presenting the phenomenon of its actual condition, one hundred and seventy-five years ago. Here, while viewing our solar system, which appeared to be only a fixed star with telescopic companions, I noticed that it constantly approached me. "Does the sun move?" I asked myself, astonished at the phenomenon. "It must certainly does," I was obliged to answer, after a season of careful observation. From observations from this, and one or two other stand points, I soon was able to compute its motion, and found, to my great surprise, that our whole solar system is constantly moving toward Hercules, at the rate of about eight miles per second, and that it passes around its center once in 18,200,000 of our years. From this star I hastened on still further, for I wished to explore the arcana of nature, and learn its mysteries. I did not stop until I reached a star of the sixteenth magnitude—one of the smallest seen from our planet, by the aid of the telescope—hence I was at the boundary of telescopic vision. Between me and my earth-home—or rather within the circle of which our earth is the center, and my position, a point in the circumference, more than a million times a million suns, and worlds with moons were revolving in systems innumerable. Nor had I reached the boundary of the universe.—Without this circle, and mingled and connected with the systems within it, were suns and worlds, compared with which, as to number, those within are but a leaf in a forest, or a drop of water in the ocean. Harmony everywhere prevailed, each system keeping its appointed track. Our sun, with its planets and its satellites seemed to be only one of many similar systems, forming a larger system, each of whose suns, or central bodies, were so far distant from each other that to observers, on the surface of any one of them, each of the others appeared only as a fixed star. The center of this large system seemed, in turn, to be but one, perhaps, of a thousand similar bodies, revolving around their center, and that with others, around another, and so on, until the final great center is doubtless the TRINITY or GOD.

Like a child, when it first ventures from the paternal roof, I dared not go out of sight of the spot called home. I had seen far more than I could comprehend. My head grew dizzy with the thought of the vastness of the universe in which I am, and in profound reverence for its Great Designer, Builder and Governor, I turned toward the earth. A thought, a flash, a shudder, and I found myself safely at my table peering a few lines for the News.

FRANKLIN.

New counterfeits two, on the Brandon Bank, Vt., are circulating.

A SINGULAR ACCIDENT.—A MAN LIES HALLA WY.—An accident occurred in a factory in the lower end of Fort street, in the city, some days since, resulting in the death of an employee of a singularly interesting nature, which furnishes a most striking instance of the tenacity with which life clings at times to the human frame.—The man, whose name we have been unable to ascertain, was engaged in the room where the machinery employed in cutting and pulverizing the clay is situated.—This machine is a large wheel, with heavy knives or cutters placed at equal distances on its circumference. Some disarrangement of this wheel attracted the attention of the unfortunate man, who attempted to reach into the wheel and adjust a while it was still revolving. In the however, he miscalculated the speed of the machinery was running, and before he could withdraw himself from under the knife, it struck him on the back of the head, low down in the neck, completely severing the upper and back portion of the skull, on a line close to the top of the ears, and cutting through and removing a considerable portion of the brain. The most singular circumstance was, that the man, in this horribly wounded condition, walked into an adjoining apartment where other workmen were, and afterwards walked to a carriage in which he rode to his home, surviving the accident nearly half a day. We doubt if another case of such extreme tenacity of life can be found in the records of accidents, but the actual occurrence of the above circumstances is vouched for by competent authorities, and is beyond doubt.

[Free Press, Detroit.]

### To Fathers and Mothers.

You know how important it is for your children that you should keep good health. How frequently do we see feeble parents grieved in mourning on account of the death of their beloved children. What a pity it is, when, by proper care and remedies, all these trials and troubles can be avoided. When health can be restored to the parent and life and happiness to the child. Restore the health of the mother and you obviate the necessity of Paedagogia. Godfrey's Cordial and other injurious narcotics for crying children. We entreat you, as we desire to improve the condition of our race, to procure Dr. Morse's Almanac and read how diseases are cured in accordance with nature's laws with innocent roots and plants.

### PREGNANCY.

During this critical period Morse's Indian Root Pills will be required, because they cleanse the body from those morbid humors, and thoroughly drive away all poisons, and give ease and comfort to the mother. These Pills, taken two or three times a week during pregnancy, will cause the mother a safe and easy delivery, and will be sure to give a stout healthy constitution to the child.

Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills are sold by all dealers in medicines.

### Christmas Eve Ball.

You are invited to attend a Christmas Eve Ball, at the BRIDGE STREET HOUSE, on Friday Eve., December 24th, 1855. Room Managers—Wm. BENTLEY, GEO. H. OSGOOD. Bill, including Supper—\$2.00.

ENLAW & HUMPHREY, Proprietors.

### New-Year's Ball.

You are respectfully invited to attend a Social Party, at the MILL POINT HALL, on Friday Evening, Dec. 31, 1855. Room Managers—A. J. ENLAW, Wm. THOMPSON. Bill, including Oyster Supper—\$1.50. GEO. H. OSGOOD, Prop.

Milwaukee Oyster Saloon Depot.  
THE First Door East of the Milwaukee Hotel, you will find constantly on hand, Oysters by the Keg and Can, also, served up, on short notice. Sardines, Pigs Feet, &c., &c. [all fr]  
L. SHACKELTON, Proprietor.  
J. D. MERRITT, Agent.

Attention Sportsmen!  
THE Subscribers would announce to the Sportsmen of Grand Haven and vicinity, that there will be a grand Turkey Shoot, on Saturday, December 24th, 1855, at the Bridge Street House, (opposite Ferryburgh.)  
ENLAW & HUMPHREY, Proprietors.

MICHIGAN HOUSE  
(Corner of Fulton and Third Streets.)

A. ROTH & CO., has recently taken the above House for the accommodation of permanent and transient Boarders, on terms suited to the times. Also, Warm Meals, Oyster Stews, Pigs Feet, Tongues, Sausages, Pies, Cakes, &c., will be served up at all hours. [all fr]

### Strayed or Stolen.

FROM the Subscriber, a Sorrel Mare Pony, with a white face and a little white on one hind leg. Any person that will return her, or give information where she may be found shall be liberally rewarded. FRANK H. WHITE.  
Grand Haven, Dec. 13, 1855. [all fr]

### Found!

ON Monday, 6th inst., about twelve miles south of Grand Haven, on the Lake Shore, a small Yacht Boat (old) and two Chests—containing principally Family Wares & Apparel.—The owner is requested to prove property, pay charges, and take possession of the same.  
DAN CONNELL  
Dec. 10, 1855. [all fr]

BLACKSMITHS' Coal for sale, by CUTLER, WANTS & STEEDMAN.

500 BARRELS of Grand Rapids and Milwaukee Flour, for sale in quantities to suit purchasers.  
C. W. & S.